

HARVARD UNIVERSITY,

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

29 Feb., 1888.

Dear Dr. Watson,-

I observe your criticism of the phrase "Library of the Botanic Garden" in the Library Report, and by transfer in my Report. The use of this phrase is entirely without significance so far as the status of the Library is concerned. Whether the Library belong more properly with the Herbarium, or with the Botanic Department taken as a whole, I have never had occasion to inquire; but I had not supposed that the Library, as well as the Herbarium, was necessarily entirely dependent on the very inadequate fund of the Herbarium.

I am not yet officially informed of the dispositions made by Dr. Gray in his will for the benefit of the Herbarium. As I have heard them described they involve a somewhat serious charge for keeping up the various editions of his books. I suppose that within a few weeks the future of the Herbarium, and its relation to the whole Department of Botany, will be brought into discussion.

Dr. Sereno Watson.

Very truly yours,

Charles W. Eliot



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